

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Before the first paragraph on page 1, insert the following heading:

Background of the Invention

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 11 with the following paragraph:

The blast furnace installation of known installations includes, in addition to the blast furnace, a burdening apparatus containing a burdening or mixture of ores (hereinafter referred to simply as "a burdening" or "the burdening"), which is connected with the blast furnace by a charging belt and, corresponding to the incline angle of the charging belt and the height of the blast furnace, approximately 55 to 65 m, is arranged approximately 300 m away from the blast furnace. Moreover, adjacent to the blast furnace a hot blast generating device is provided in which, by means of currently usually three hot blast apparatus, the required reaction gas (combustion air) is pre-heated as well as, furthermore, a dust removal and cleaning device for the blast furnace gas in the vicinity of the blast furnace. The frame armor of the blast

furnace is cooled generally by means of a conventional frame open-surface cooler also known as a trickling apparatus.

Before the paragraph beginning on line 7 of page 3, insert the following heading:

#### Summary of the Invention

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 11 with the following paragraph:

This object is solved for a blast furnace installation wherein the blast furnace with a frame diameter of between 5 and 10 m is of a compact configuration with the features:

(a) a self-supporting blast furnace armor construction wherein the entire upper blast furnace construction of the blast furnace - with a top closing device configured as a revolving chute with a fixedly installed slant angle without tilting mechanism, gas removal pipe, and safety valves including pressure compensation - is supported on the blast furnace armor;

b) in the frame area, in the zones of belly of the blast furnace, waist of the blast furnace, and lower shaft, water-cooled cooling elements of a material having high thermal conductivity are

arranged between the refractory furnace wall and the blast furnace armor; and

c) for tapping of the hot metal only one tap hole is installed on the furnace with only one set of tap hole plugging and drilling machines ~~of the aforementioned kind with the characterizing features of claim 1. Advantageous embodiments of the invention are defined in the dependent claims.~~

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 15 with the following paragraph:

With the measures of the invention, to configure the blast furnace in a compact configuration as well as to configure or arrange the arrangement of the most important installation parts belonging to the blast furnace in a compact way in direct vicinity of the blast furnace, a completely new design of a compact blast furnace installation is obtained. There is the possibility of installing a conventional frame open-surface cooler or trickling apparatus.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 11 with the following paragraph:

Since on the blast furnace only one tap hole aperture is installed (with only one set of tap hole plugging and drilling machines), it

is now advantageously possible to design the pouring bay configuration much smaller (more compact) and thus in a more cost-beneficial way. The pouring bay, according to the invention, is arranged directly adjacent to the blast furnace and is configured such that the rail system for transporting the hot metal and liquid slag is no longer needed. By means of a gutter system the hot metal is transported into correspondingly large ladles and transported in a wheel-bound container, while the liquid slag is transported into a slag blanket and/or into a slag granulation apparatus.

Before the paragraph beginning on line 22 of page 6, insert the following heading:

Brief Description of the Drawing

Before the paragraph beginning on line 8 of page 7, insert the following heading:

Detailed Description of the Invention

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 20 with the

following paragraph:

The pouring bay 50 with the gutter system 52 is arranged also in direct vicinity of the blast furnace 10 via which the produced hot metal is transported into the pouring ladles 51 (Fig. 3) and the slag as a ~~into the~~ slag blanket or layer 53 and/or into the slag granulation device 54. A water treatment plant 55 for providing the granulation water is arranged adjacent to the slag granulation device 54. The dust removal device 56 arranged adjacent to the pouring bay 50 is connected with the pouring bay 50 and the burdening 30 and provides during operation of the blast furnace 10 a proper dust removal of the pouring bay 50 and of the burdening 30.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 18 with the following paragraph:

The embodiments of the compact blast furnace device illustrated in the drawings, in particular, the arrangement of the installation parts in the layout of Fig. 4, are only possible embodiments of the invention. They can be correspondingly modified, of course, according to the requirements and the specific local conditions

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when the features of the invention as they are formulated, ~~in~~  
particular, ~~in claim 1~~ are complied with.